

Freetown Council on Aging
227 Chace Road, Freetown, MA 02717
Meeting Minutes
Monday, September 21, 2023

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FREETOWN TOWN CLERK
2023 OCT 16 AM 10:03

Members Present: Robin Kendrick, Rebecca Frias, Ruth Ferland, Sonny Barros, Evelyn Alves, Brenda Motta

Absent: Marion Rylands, Bruce Wilbur

Senior Club Members were also present.

Call to Order

Brenda Motta called the meeting to order at 2:05 PM.

Secretary's Report

Meeting minutes for July and August were distributed and reviewed. Sonny Barros made the motion to accept the minutes. This was seconded by Evelyn Alves. All members were in favor.

Treasurer's Report

There was no Treasurer's report provided at today's meeting.

New Business

Upcoming Events in the Fall

- 1) On Tuesday, October 31st, Lunch at noon with Bingo to follow at 1:00 PM will be offered for the first time with the hopes of engaging additional participants.
- 2) Karaoke & Pizza will again take place on Thursday, October 19th at 12:30 PM with Rick Arruda. This event has been a great success and brings joy and happiness to all attendees.
- 3) Music with Lady D has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 4th. Lady D will entertain Seniors by singing Jazz, Do Wop, Motown, R & B and Gospel Music.
- 4) Veteran's Coffee & Muffins Hour has been scheduled with our Veteran's agent, Bob Klevecka, on Thursday, October 12th at 10:00 AM.
- 5) A step by step painting class "Creativity with Color" has been scheduled for Tuesday October 18th.

Ideas for 2024 Mass Cultural Council

Rebecca Frias, Director, invited Council members to provide ideas for the 2024 Mass Cultural Council. The Cultural Council has money available to provide the opportunity for our Seniors to partake in events either off the premises or in the building. The funds provided would support scheduling bus trips to a play, show, etc.

Teaming Up with Lakeville for Bus Trips

Rebecca plans to meet with the Director from the Lakeville Council on Aging to discuss the possibility of teaming up for bus trips. This concept could prove to be beneficial to both parties due to requiring a minimum number of participants.

Rochester COA

It was noted that the Rochester COA currently offers rides to shut-ins to drive them around town to view the scenery and also provides lunch. The suggestion was made to think about whether or not this concept could work at our Senior Center.

The Rochester COA also offers breakfast from 7:00 AM to 9:00 AM Monday through Friday. Several of our Board members will plan to attend a breakfast to learn how they operate and possibly determine whether this could be a plan for the future in Freetown.

MCOA Grant

Rebecca provided information concerning a grant opportunity from the MCOA. It was noted they have \$500,000 available at this time. Rebecca plans to apply for an Innovative Nutrition Program grant with the idea of possibly bringing lunch to our Senior Center.

Old Business

The proposed plan to change the status of the current part-time clerk to full time will be on the Town Warrant for the October 23rd meeting at 7:00 PM.

Kitchen Stove

It was explained that the idea to turn off the stove was the right decision according to several sources. The proposed plan is to replace the stove with grant money, possibly hire a chef and create a lunch program for our Seniors.

POD Update

Rebecca noted a meeting has been scheduled with Carl Bizarro, Building Inspector and representatives from a company in Connecticut to discuss plans for the pods. Sonny Barros and Brenda Motta will also attend the meeting scheduled for Tuesday, September 26th at 10:00 AM.

Vertical Platform Lift

Victoria Alfaro Duran from the Planning Board is working to obtain a grant which could include a Vertical Platform Lift.

Discussion on Creation of Friends of Freetown Entity

Information concerning the Friends of Freetown will be provided by Rhonda Silvia at one of our future meetings. Ms. Silvia will explain her role in the group when it was active several years ago.

THANK YOU

Rebecca thanked everyone, including the volunteers and the entire team, for participation in the two latest successful events held here at the Senior Center.

Survey Update

Rebecca is compiling information from the latest survey. Information will be provided at the next Board meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:45 PM. Evelyn Alves made the motion to close the meeting. This was seconded by Robin Kendrick. All in favor.

Respectfully submitted

Jackie Garell

Senior Clerk

